The total amount spent on Renovation and Modernization and Life Extension activities of Thermal Power Stations during the last three years works out to Rs. 253.06 crores and Rs. 1251.91 crores respectively.

An amount of Rs. 28.02 crores has been spent up to March, 2007 by Government of India as consultancy charges of NTPC was engaged for the purpose of PIE.

Availability of power

4110. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) what is gap between projected power demand and the actual power that is available for Delhi, keeping in view the ensuing summer season this year;

(b) whether the Central Government has agreed to increase Delhi's share in Central's unallocated power reserve, from the existing 22 per cent to 40 per cent; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, indicating whether Delhi would also be getting power from other sources like Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC), etc., to meet its increased demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) According to Government of Delhi, the estimated demand for power in Delhi during the summer season is likely to be around 4,400 MW and Delhi is not likely to experience shortage of power subject to receipt of power against the tie-ups for power already made by the Discoms of Delhi.

(b) and (c) The allocation of unallocated power is reviewed from time to time and the requests for higher allocation are considered depending upon the prevailing conditions of power supply position in the constituents of Northern Region. In the last revision of allocation of unallocated power in the Northern Region, effective from 13.04.2008, the allocation of Delhi from the unallocated power of Central Generating Stations of Northern Region has been enhanced from 0-6% (0—82 MW) to 0-22% (0—301 MW) in different time-slots of the day and from unallocated power of Rajasthan APS Unit-3&4, from 'nil' to 0-14 MW.

According to the information received from BSES Rajdhani Power Limited (BRPL) and BSES Yamuna Power Limited (BYPL), they have tied up power through banking arrangement from Uttarakhand and Karnataka. North Delhi Power Limited (NDPL) has also reported to have made banking arrangements with Maharashtra, Himachal Pradesh and Karnataka States during the winter for receiving power during peak hours in summer season.

In terms of the Power Purchase Agreement signed between DVC and Delhi Transco Ltd., 400 MW power was to be made available from December, 2007 onwards. Supply of 300 MW of Power was linked with the commissioning of Chandrapura Unit No. 7 & 8 which is reported to have been delayed.

Advanced power evacuation system

4111. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. (PGCIL) is experimenting with what could be world's most advanced power evacuation system-a 1200 KV power transmission line-capable of evacuating 6,000-7,000 MW of power;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether PGCIL proposes to achieve this super-critical technology, with the assistance of foreign companies; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. (PGCIL) proposes to adopt the world's most advanced power evacuation systems. These include the 1200 kV Ultra High Voltage (UHV) AC technology and the + 800 kV High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) transmission technology.

For 1200 kV AC technology, a few preliminary studies have been completed and PGCIL is establishing a test station at Bina in association with leading manufacturers of various equipment in our country.

For ± 800 kV HVDC technology, preliminary studies with respect to HVDC configuration, transmission line design, capacity of HVDC systems, location of terminal stations etc. have been completed. Similarly, other technical studies regarding insulation levels, requirement for HVDC controls, interaction studies with existing schemes etc. have been accomplished. Based on the results of these studies, design and technical specifications have been prepared. The requisite tests necessary for actual implementation would be conducted before deployment.

Inaccurate power meters

4112. SHRI N. R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the domestic electricity meters, installed by distribution companies in the capital, run about 2.5 per cent fast, resulting in inflated power bills;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Electricity Consumers Advocate Committee (ECAC) has approached the Central Electricity Authority, for reducing and reviewing the accuracy of electricity meters from 2.5 per cent to 0.5 per cent; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) and (b) Electricity is a concurrent subject. Distribution of electricity comes within the purview of the States. Accordingly, the distribution companies (DISCOMs) are regulated by the respective State Electricity Regulatory Commissions (SERCs) under the provisions of the Electricity Act, 2003.

The Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission has reported that the accuracy standards of different classes of electricity meters are decided by Bureau of India Standards (BIS). The current standard for domestic electricity meters issued by BIS provide for a tolerance of ± 2.5 per cent. Therefore, a meter found to be fast or slow within the prescribed limit of ± 2.5 percent is considered to be functioning accurately and, therefore, does not have any billing related implications.